

## Finding Aid to the Save the Air National Guard Records

### Save the Air National Guard

Save the Air National Guard Records, 2003-2005

1 linear ft.

MSS 383

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### OVERVIEW

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the NDSU Archives.

**Provenance:** Donated by David K. Martin, Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead, 2006 (Acc.2777).

**Property rights:** North Dakota State University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Save the Air National Guard Records (MSS 383), North Dakota State University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### HISTORY

In August 2003 the Department of Defense suggested that a large number of air bases around the country could be subject to closures or decreases through the Base Realignment And Closure program (BRAC). Included on this list were the air bases in Grand Forks, North Dakota, Fargo, North Dakota, and Duluth, Minnesota. Leaders in the Grand Forks/ Fargo area decided to produce a campaign for saving these bases.

From August 2003 to June 2005, a support group was formed and provided research and statistics to prove the value of these bases. The group was first compiled and led by David K. Martin of the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber of Commerce and Jamie Morin, a Senior Defense Analyst with the U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget. The group consisted of leaders from the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber of Commerce, the Air Force, local university officials and government officials. This group met frequently to discuss action to save the bases and to promote community involvement with the issue. They compiled extensive research regarding the fiscal contribution of the bases to the surrounding areas, as well as the necessity that the bases remain open and functional.

This topic was covered heavily in the press, creating newspaper articles around the country from September 2003 to September 2005. This extended publication boosted support for saving the bases and led government officials in Washington in the Department of Defense to hear them out.

On June 23, 2005, members of the support group gave a final presentation to government officials with BRAC in Grand Forks, North Dakota regarding the bases located there, in Fargo, and in Duluth. Government officials from North Dakota and Minnesota spoke in support of saving the bases along with the presentation created by the research done by the support group over the previous two years. Due to these efforts the bases were saved.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Save the Air National Guard Records primarily included support group information, financial records, research and statistics, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and presentations. There is one artifact included in the collection; a promotional “Happy Hooligans” group Frisbee from the early 2000s. The support group information includes rosters, updated periodically, community meeting announcements, and letters to members. The financial records include expenses of the support group and contributions from local businesses to support the group. The research and statistics includes information about the fiscal impact of the bases and the use of the bases from a military standpoint. This information was used to create presentations. The correspondence includes transactions between the leaders of the support group, as well as discussions with government officials involved with the project. These folders also include a few networking business cards. The newspaper clippings provide any articles regarding the air base closures or the support group efforts to save them. The presentations and final report include the compiled information persuading those involved in BRAC to reconsider closing these bases.

## **BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

<b>Box/Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1/1	Finding aid, and Historical information
1/2	Artifact, circa early 2000s
1/3	Support Group/Community Engagement, September, 2003-July, 2005
1/4	Financial, September, 2003-July, 2005
1/5	Research and Statistics- Government Documents, March, 2003-August, 2005
1/6	Research and Statistics- Drafts, BRAC Briefs, February, 2004-May 2005

1/7	Research and Statistics- Financial Impact, Other, February, 2003-July, 2005
1/8	Correspondence, August, 2003-December, 2003
1/9	Correspondence, January, 2004-May, 2004
1/10	Correspondence, June, 2004-December, 2004
1/11	Correspondence, January, 2005-April, 2005
1/12	Correspondence, May, 2005-September, 2005
1/13	Legal Documents, March, 2004
1/14	Presentations, 2004-2005
1/15	Presentations, June, 2005
1/16	Presentations- Final Drafts 1 of 2, February, 2004-July, 2004
1/17	Presentations- Final Drafts 2 of 2, July, 2004-February, 2005
1/18	Newspaper Clippings, September, 2003-Decemberm 2004
1/19	Newspaper Clippings, January, 2005-May, 2005
1/20	Newspaper Clippings, June, 2005-September, 2005
1/21	Final Report Part 1 of 3, June 23, 2005
1/22	Final Report Part 2 of 3, June 23, 2005
1/23	Final Report Part 3 of 3, June 23, 2005